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Partnership, prevention touted as key in crime-reduction strategy

RCMP Chief Supt. Brenda Butterworth-Carr addresses the media on Wednesday in Regina about a study that has found aboriginals constituted 55 per cent of female homicide victims in Saskatchewan between 1980 and 2012. Troy Hagen, chief of Regina police and head of the Saskatchewan Association of Chiefs of Police, is seated next to her. MARCO VIGLIOTTI/METRO IN REGINA

Violence against aboriginal women.

More proactive approach from police forces is essential: Sask. chief superintendent

MARCO VIGLIOTTI
Metro in Regina

Saskatchewan's senior RCMP official says the force has the necessary tools to make inroads in reducing violent crimes against First Nations women.

Chief Supt. Brenda Butterworth-Carr spoke to media on Wednesday in Regina to address a study by the Mounties that has found aboriginals comprised 55 per cent of female homicide victims in Saskatchewan between 1980 and 2012 — a figure that she says shows more work is needed on the file.

"A lot of effort has gone into ensuring that this is being paid the due respect that it demands, from the formation of our Saskatchewan Cold Case Investigative Unit to the formation of our provincial partnership committee on missing persons," Butterworth-Carr told reporters at RCMP divisional headquarters.

The proportion of First Nations homicide victims in Saskatchewan is the highest of any province, though it's lower than those of Canada's three aboriginal-dominated northern territories.

There were 1,181 missing and murdered aboriginal females identified in the RCMP study. The 1,017 murdered aboriginal women represent a disproportionate 16 per cent of all murdered females.

Butterworth-Carr called for a more proactive, multi-faceted approach from police to address violent crime against aboriginal women.

"We need to get more into preventing these at the outset," she said.

First Nations activists claim that institutional racism has played a dominant role in what they say is a sluggish police response to such cases.

Pressing issue

"A lot of effort has gone into ensuring that this is being paid the due respect that it demands."

Chief Supt. Brenda Butterworth-Carr

They point to a British Columbia inquiry that claimed "systemic bias" within the RCMP and Vancouver police had led to significant errors in the investigation into serial killer Robert Pickton, who preyed on primarily aboriginal sex-trade workers.

The issue has again garnered the national spotlight amid renewed calls for the federal Conservative government to launch an inquiry into it.

While refusing to comment directly on any potential inquiry, Butterworth-Carr pointed out that the numbers of solved homicide cases involving aboriginal female victims are "very comparable" to those of investigations involving non-indigenous women and girls in Saskatchewan.

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Dean Dodge, CEO of the YMCA of Saskatoon, is seen at the downtown facility's pool on Wednesday. Civic administrators have been instructed to draft an agreement that could make city hall and the YMCA partners in the development of a recreational complex in central Saskatoon. MORGAN MODJESKI/METRO

City working with YMCA to build $20M rec centre

Core neighbourhoods. Facility would likely primarily serve the King George, Riversdale and Pleasant Hill areas

MORGAN MODJESKI
morgan.modjeski@metronews.ca

City hall and the YMCA are working together to establish a recreation facility for core neighbourhoods.

On Tuesday, council voted to have administrators draft an agreement in principle between the city and the YMCA, which would make them partners in the estimated $20-million project.

"The great thing about the match between the city and the YMCA is we have very similar reasons for why we do things," Dean Dodge, CEO of the YMCA of Saskatoon, said on Wednesday.

"We believe that people want to lead healthier and active lives and ... if we work together, we can help them achieve (that)."

The city and the YMCA have been in discussions on the issue since last year, though no formal partnership had been established.

If the agreement is approved by council, both sides will work together to secure funding and find a suitable location for the facility that would likely serve primarily the King George, Riversdale and Pleasant Hill areas.

Coun. Pat Lorje of Ward 2 said such a facility would improve the quality of life in central Saskatoon, as travel costs to get to suburban centres can be an obstacle.

"What will be important is making sure the location is easily accessible to as many of those kids as possible," Lorje said.

"There could be a real synergy here, but the devil is always in the details."

The Saskatoon Tribal Council wants to be involved in the project's development, saying the facility must be tailored to the people it serves.

"The demographics of the core neighbourhoods include a lot of First Nations and aboriginal people," said Felix Thomas, chief of the council.

Missing since February

Police confirm body found in river is MacIntosh

A body found in the Saskatchewan River on the Victoria Day weekend is that of Saskatoon resident Gregory "Myles" MacIntosh, police have confirmed.

An autopsy was conducted on Tuesday after marine researchers discovered the body in the river about 45 kilometres north of Melfort on Saturday.

MacIntosh, 28, disappeared in the South Saskatchewan River in Saskatoon in early February during his bachelor party. He was to get married about two weeks later.

On Monday, a post on the Facebook page Bring Myles Home indicated that Saskatoon police had told his family that "it is very certain the body found was that of Myles."

City police spokeswoman Alyson Edwards said she hopes that investigators are able to "assist the family with some closure" following the discovery of the remains.

Scott Denny, 33, is charged with aggravated assault in connection to the MacIntosh investigation, according to police.

JACOB MORGAN/METRO

Gregory "Myles" MacIntosh was found dead in the Saskatchewan River. FACEBOOK

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Crowdfunding

Corner Gas gets $100K in one day through Kickstarter

A Kickstarter campaign for the Corner Gas movie project surpassed its $100,000 goal in one day, with donations reportedly flooding in from as far away as Australia, China, India and Kyrgyzstan.

The campaign on the crowdfunding website had raised more than $125,000 by Wednesday evening after opening on Tuesday morning with a goal of reaching $100,000 in 30 days.

Corner Gas: The Movie, based on the hit CTV series about a gas station owner and his friends in a Saskatchewan town, will be released in December. The movie is fully funded with an $8-million budget, including taxpayer funds from Telefilm Canada.

Creator and star Brent Butt said on Wednesday that he's stunned by the support for the Saskatchewan-produced film.

"The way people have responded to this show has been blowing me away since that first episode. I thought nothing the fans could do would surprise me anymore," Butt said in a release.

"But to reach a month-long target in one day is beyond incredible."

Some 842 people have backed the campaign, including Maaike de Lint of Toronto, who was the first to donate, according to Bell Media.

One backer purchased a brief speaking role in the film for $6,000, while 10 people spent $2,500 each to play a background role.

Other rewards bought by eager Corner Gas fans include $1,500 set visits and $750 to name a character in the film.

Butt has said the goal of the Kickstarter campaign is to give fans a chance to participate in the movie-making process. The first $100,000 will pay for the fan rewards, while the remaining funds will go toward improving the production.

"There were a couple places where we thought it would be great to have a few extra bucks," Butt said, "to ramp up the special effects."

Corner Gas was a hit during its five-year television run from 2004 to 2009. The film will reunite all eight original cast members and will begin shooting in the town of Rouleau in June.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Garbage goes green with landfill gas collection project

A Saskatoon first. Mayor Don Atchinson hails development as environmentally friendly and a sound financial move

JACOB MORGAN
jacob.morgan@metronews.ca

The last time Saskatoon constructed its own power plant, green was just a colour.

Representatives of the city, federal and provincial governments gathered on Wednesday to mark the completion of a landfill gas collection system, which converts emissions from municipal waste into energy.

"(This is) the first power plant in a hundred years being built in Saskatoon, and it's pretty outstanding where we've come," Saskatoon-Eastview MLA Corey Tochor said at the landfill.

Though a previous coal-fired station ceased operating in the early 1980s, Tochor said it's interesting to note "the impacts of coal-fired generation on the environment versus the green technology on display here."

Mayor Don Atchison said the development is not only easy on the earth, but a sound financial move.

"In that sense, I think we're true leaders in all of Canada," said Atchison.

He explained that a contract with SaskPower allows the Crown corporation to sell the new resource "so people who want green power pay an additional premium."

Profits on the deal, Atchison added, translate to $1.3 million per year for the city.

The federal government contributed $6.3 million to the $15-million project. Saskatoon MP Kelly Block said the plan fits the criteria of the Provincial-Territorial Base Fund "to ensure the provinces and territories (have) access to funding to build infrastructure specific to (their) needs."

According to the city, annual benefits include a reduction of greenhouse gasses by more than 45,000 tonnes, production of enough electricity to power 1,300 homes and improvements in air quality and odours around the landfill.

When organic waste decomposes, the city says, it turns into a toxic mix of methane and carbon dioxide.

A 12-hectare section of garbage is capped over with clay, allowing underground wells and pipes to transport the emissions to a generator facility or to be combusted in a flare.

"During the combustion process the methane is converted to carbon dioxide, a less harmful gas," a city release states.

Kevin Hudson, manager of metering and sustainable electricity with Saskatoon Light and Power, explains how the generation facility converts landfill gasses into energy. JACOB MORGAN/METRO

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Telecom

Federal privacy law challenged

The Canadian Civil Liberties Association is challenging the constitutionality of a federal privacy law that allows private companies to disclose personal information to the government without a warrant.

The challenge comes amid revelations that telecommunications service providers have been disclosing private customer information to government agencies on a broad scale.

The association says the consequences of allowing government to access and share personal information without the person's knowledge or consent can be very serious and violate fundamental constitutional rights.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Wainwright, Alta.

Soldier killed in training exercise

A senior military commander from Ontario was killed Wednesday morning during a training exercise on a northern Alberta military base.

Lt.-Col. Dan Bobbitt, commanding officer of the 2nd Regiment, Royal Canadian Horse Artillery based in Garrison Petawawa, Ont., died when a light armoured vehicle rolled over during a training mission for Exercise Maple Resolve 2014 at Canadian Forces Base Wainwright.

Four other soldiers from the same regiment were injured; two were taken to hospital in Edmonton in fair condition while two others were treated at the base and released. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Harper gov't pledges aid to nine African countries

A mother comforts her severely malnourished and dehydrated child in Wajir hospital, Wajir, Kenya. CHRIS JACKSON/GETTY IMAGES

Seven-year plan. Money will help pay for research into the primary health-care needs of mothers, newborns and children

A week before an international conference on maternal and child health care opens in Toronto, the Harper government is rolling out announcements on what it sees as its signature issue on the world stage.

In Geneva, Health Minister Rona Ambrose pledged $36 million over seven years to help improve the lives of women and children in sub-Saharan Africa.

Hours later in Calgary, Deepak Obhrai, the parliamentary secretary to Foreign Affairs Minister John Baird, unveiled another program to help mothers and children in South Sudan.

Ambrose was at the World Health Assembly in Geneva when she pledged the money to help pay for research in nine countries into the primary health care needs of mothers, newborns and children. The countries are Ethiopia, Ghana, Tanzania, Mozambique, Mali, Senegal, South Sudan, Malawi and Nigeria.

The announcement comes ahead of the May 28-30 conference in Toronto, which is aimed at helping to shape future action on maternal and child health problems.

Federal government figures say the number of women who die each year during pregnancy or childbirth has dropped by 47 per cent since 1990. There were 543,000 deaths that year compared with 287,000 in 2010.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

More aid

Canada also unveiled another program to help mothers and children in Africa.

- $16.6M is to be spent over six years to staff and equip four mobile primary health care clinics and provide other services to 350,000 people in more than 600 remote communities in South Sudan
- Canada will also help train 1,500 community health volunteers deliver 116,000 anti-malarial bed nets and build 170 safe driving-water points

Scan the photo below with your Metro News app to see a photo gallery of the latest leg of the royal couple's tour.

Charles feeds Hudson the polar bear

Prince Charles feeds a polar bear at the Assiniboine Park Zoo in Winnipeg on Wednesday. There was a look of mock trepidation on the prince's face as he came close to the bear, who was on the other side of a chain-link fence. Charles and his wife Camilla are on a four-day tour of Canada. The prince used tongs to offer some fish to two-year-old Hudson, who gobbled up the treat. Charles remarked on the size of Hudson's paws, and a zoo-keeper explained how polar bears are able to pull prey from the water with one swipe.

PAUL CHIASSON/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Uproar over heir's remark

Charles on Putin.
Prince's remark comes just ahead of Ukraine's presidential elections on Sunday

The seemingly off-the-cuff comment reportedly made by Prince Charles in Halifax comparing Russian President Vladimir Putin's actions in Ukraine to the territory-seizing of Adolf Hitler has stirred debate in the United Kingdom about the role of the monarchy.

Labour Party MP Mike Gapes weighed in with a tweet that suggested the Prince of Wales should have kept his comments to himself.

"In constitutional monarchy, policy and diplomacy should be conducted by parliament and government. Monarchy should be seen and not heard," he tweeted.

When someone asked him about the prince's right to free speech, he replied on Twitter: "If you are heir to throne or monarch what you say matters. Normal 'free speech' argument not relevant." But Deputy Prime Minister Nick Clegg said the prince was "free to express himself." THE CANADIAN PRESS

Ontario wildlife park

Giraffe calf born through artificial insemination

A wildlife park in southwestern Ontario is celebrating the birth of the first giraffe in Canada through artificial insemination.

African Lion Safari in Cambridge says the calf named Safari was born on Dec. 31, 2013, but they only announced the birth on Tuesday.

The female calf, weighing 132 pounds and standing just under six feet tall, has since been introduced to the herd.

African Lion Safari says this is only the second time in the world that a giraffe has been conceived through artificial insemination.

The calf is a Rothschild giraffe, a subspecies that is classified as endangered.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Rehab.

Rob Ford's Caddy is impounded by OPP

Toronto Mayor Rob Ford's Escalade has been impounded in the Muskoka region after it was pulled over around 2:30 p.m. Tuesday, according to CP24.

The vehicle was pulled over by Bracebridge OPP on Muskoka Road 169 at Butterfly Road. The female driver was reportedly found to be impaired by alcohol.

Ford is known to be in the area while in rehab at the GreeneStone treatment centre. LeeAnne McRobb, 36, of Muskoka Lakes Township, faces charges of impaired driving and driving over .08. She will appear in court June 17.

A representative of Northland Towing and Recovery, in Gravenhurst, confirmed that his towing company received a black Cadillac Escalade and that it is in their impound lot. He said the vehicle will remain there until the OPP chooses to release it.

Newstalk 1010 reported that McRobb is a former patient at Greenestone. "That's for me to know," she said when asked how she wound up behind the wheel.

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Residents report extremist group attacked villages

48 more dead. After car bombings that killed 118 in Jos, Boko Haram reportedly target Nigerian villages

Boko Haram assaulted three villages in northern Nigeria, killing 48 people, residents said Wednesday, hours after twin bombings claimed at least 118 lives in this central city in an attack the government blamed on the Islamic extremists.

One of the villages attacked between Tuesday night and early Wednesday is near the town of Chibok, where more than 300 schoolgirls were kidnapped last month by Boko Haram, according to residents and a state intelligence agent who spoke on condition of anonymity.

A victim of Tuesday's car bomb explosions receives treatment in Jos University Teaching Hospital in Jos, Nigeria.
SUNDAY ALAMBA/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

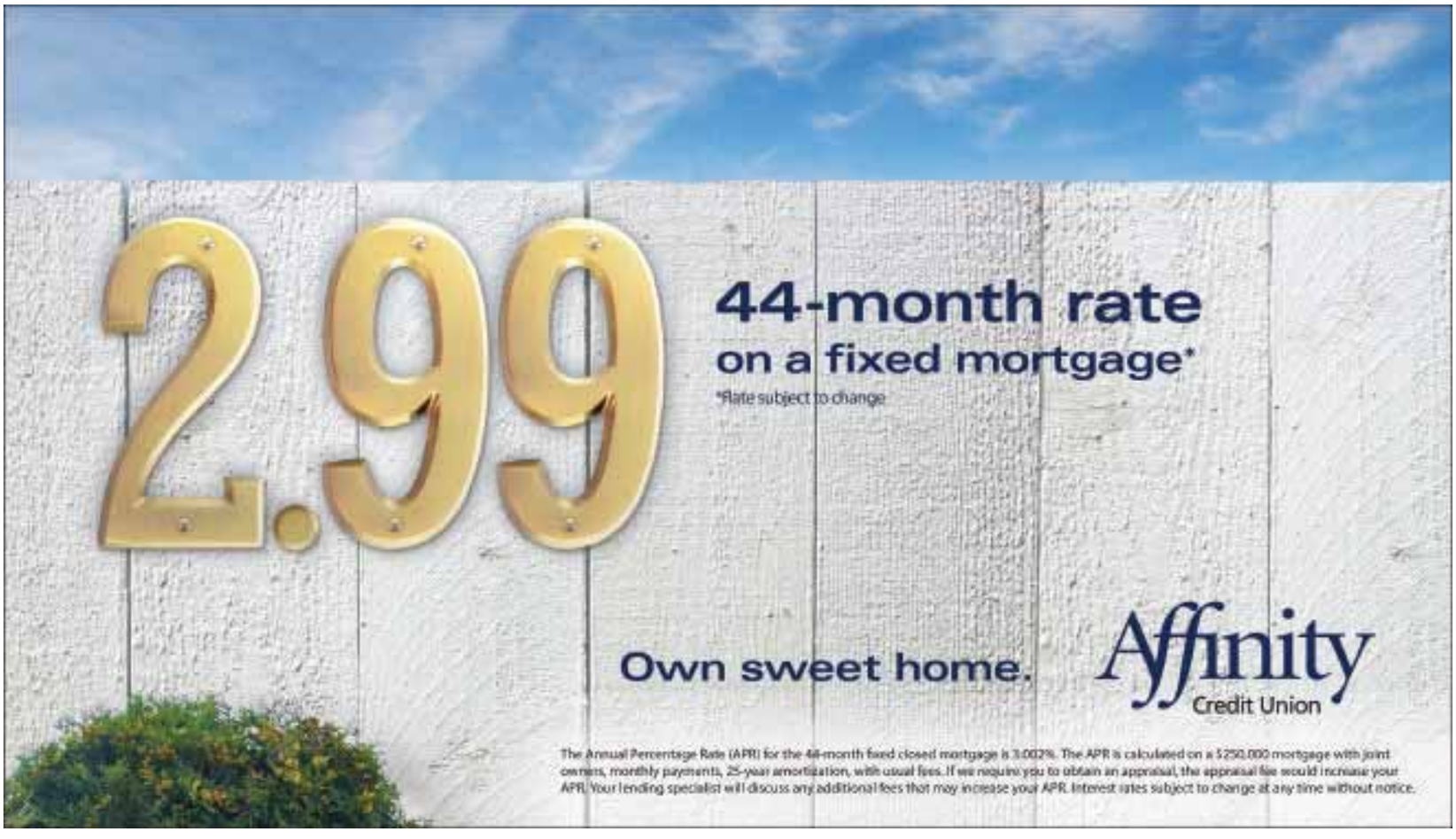
During the latest attack on three northeastern villages, terrified residents said they hid in the bush and watched while Boko Haram fighters set their thatched-roof homes ablaze.

"We saw our village go up in flames as we hid in the bush waiting for the dawn. We lost everything," Apagu Maidaga of the village of Alagarno told The Associated Press. The nearby villages of Bulakurbe and Shawa also were attacked.

In Jos, at least 118 people were killed in Tuesday's bombings, and 64 were hospitalized.

Most victims were women and children who worked as vendors, said Mohammed Abdulsalam of the National Emergency Management Agency. "We expect to find more bodies in the rubble," he said.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS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Hova is still a business, man

At the 40/40 Club, ESPN on the screen. Jay Z gets dirt off his shoulder, tries again with club in Atlanta airport after closures in Atlantic City & Vegas

Jay Z brought his 40/40 Club to the world's busiest airport on Wednesday, with the opening of the swanky bar's third location.

40/40 is open to ticketed passengers at Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport, according to spokeswoman Victoria Hong of Delaware North Companies, which partners with the rap mogul. The sports bar is in the airport's Concourse D concessions area, Hong said.

40/40 restaurant and lounges also are located in Manhattan and the Barclays Center in Brooklyn. Jay Z also had clubs in Las Vegas and Atlantic City, N.J., but both closed.

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Pawsitively pricey pet pics

A photo provided by a pet photographer shows client Heyla, a 10-year-old Saluki, photographed in Paris. Pet portraiture is becoming big business for photographers as more and more families seek to capture canine memories. A consultation and hour-long photo shoot can fetch $500. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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DRESSING FOR BACHELORS 101

HE SAYS

John Mazerolle
metronews.ca

Clothes make the man, wouldn't you agree?

When I met my girlfriend, I worried I'd no longer be able to write about my favourite topic: bachelorhood. But I always understood deep down that bachelorhood is not about your relationship status. It's about living a lifestyle that leads acquaintances to assume you live in the woods, possibly with wolves.

If you eat Mini-Wheats directly from the box for "dinner," wash the dishes by whacking them against a hard surface or, yes, dress like you found your clothes in the dumpster outside the Goodwill, then you get to keep the bachelorhood union card.

My wardrobe keeps me rooted in the comfortable environs of bachelorhood, girlfriend or no.

I'm not what you would call fashion-forward, or even fashion-sideways, but I dress pretty well.

I mean, if there's a tie involved I can't. And if my back's acting up then putting socks on requires a repeated fishing motion until I "catch" the sock on my big toe. And I find it hard to work buttons while I'm looking in the mirror.

But when my girlfriend and I went shopping for jeans this week, my contribution was pulling them on, so I definitely dress pretty well. Usually.

Despite these wardrobe malfunctions, I still have the bachelor clothing itself down to a science. Observe with these tip-top tips:

How to be a fash-ist: Clothing for bachelors

Be fashionable in bulk: The worst part about clothes is that you have to buy them. One of the reasons I've managed to keep slim over the years is that when my jeans start to get tight in the waist, I lose weight. Self-discipline? No. I'd simply rather diet and exercise for three months than shop for 45 minutes.

So, if you try on something you like, make a beeline back to the table it came from and buy it in every colour available. Also buy larger sizes for when you gain weight and smaller sizes for when you're old and frail.

If anyone notices you're wearing the same pattern day after day, it means they like you. Go for it.

Dress outside the box: Say you only have one black button-up shirt that you've worn for at least 10 years and which gets used for every semi-formal event, from wedding to funeral to job interview for newspaper columnist. Hypothetically.

If that sounds like you, your wardrobe probably seems a little spare. But wait! Did you know you can wear that shirt unbuttoned OR buttoned? Tucked OR untucked? Clean OR dirty? Suddenly one shirt is an entire wardrobe! The possible combinations are literally six!

Out-wait your clothes: I find it's best to wear clothes until the last possible moment of their life. Your jeans should moult off your body as you buy a new pair.

And do you have dirty clothes lying about that fail the smell test? If you let old laundry sit long enough, it will eventually pass the little-used smell re-test. Everybody loves a redemption story.

I hope you find these fashion tips useful. It's not about the look, it's about the attitude. The clothes make the man.

Or put another way, I wear the pants in my relationship. Whichever pair she chooses.

ZOOM

Croaking in the rain

This tiny frog shows even amphibians don't like getting wet sometimes by turning a leaf into a makeshift umbrella. MUHAMMAD RIDHA/SOLENT NEWS

Shelter from the storm

This green frog took shelter under a tropical plant to escape the shower in his jungle abode. Photographer Muhammad Ridha, 27, spotted the creature trying to dodge the raindrops while out for a walk near his home in Borneo, Indonesia. MWN

Photog's view

"When the frog saw me watching him, he stayed quiet but just carried on with his funny behaviour."

Muhammad Ridha

Picture proves worth the wait

Ridha stayed for half an hour to capture the image of the human-mimicking amphibian using his 50-mm lens. "I have never seen anything like this before so (I) decided to wait for that perfect moment," he said. "By great coincidence, I was there to see the frog holding onto the leaf stem like a person would clutch the handle of an umbrella." MWN

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In this issue, you can find AR enhancements on page 11 in Life and page 14 in Sports

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metro AR

Worth mentioning

Not-so-happy times for dancing Iranians

Pharrell Williams GETTY IMAGES

An Internet video of six young Iranian men and women dancing to Pharrell Williams' Happy has led to their arrests, showing how far Tehran will go to halt what it deems to be decadent western behaviour — despite the views of its moderate president.

Criticism outside Iran was predictably swift Wednesday, with calls for freedom for the jailed youths zipping around social media. Williams tweeted: "It's beyond sad these kids were arrested for trying to spread happiness."

A tweet posted Wednesday evening on President Hassan Rouhani's account seemed to address the controversy, even if it stopped short of mentioning the video or the arrests directly.

"#Happiness is our people's right," it said. "We shouldn't be too hard on behaviours caused by joy."

Other social-media posts suggested at least some of the dancers had already been released, though there was no independent confirmation from authorities.

The case was another reminder of the tensions that exist at the highest levels of Iranian power, with hard-liners determined to maintain the status quo while moderates try to push through change — be it improved relations with the West or a loosening of morality clampdowns at home.

Hard-liners are increasingly challenging Rouhani as the country negotiates a nuclear deal with world powers. The president campaigned for greater cultural and social freedoms in his bid to succeeded Mahmoud Ahmadinejad last year.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Fireside Singers harmonize to stage Jesus Christ Superstar

Rock opera. Close-knit group of performers take on the classic musical

BACKSTAGE PASS
Simon Hiatt
saskatoon@metronews.ca

When you hire someone to look at your plumbing, you expect him to know a thing or two about pipes. But Trevor Wingerter takes that expertise to a whole new level.

The plumber moonlights as an actor for Fireside Singers, playing Jean Valjean in Les Miserables and starring in the upcoming staging of Jesus Christ Superstar. He's been known to flex his own pipes, too, occasionally bursting into song on the job.

"They're starting to recognize me after eight years in Fireside. 'Hey, that's that singing plumber.' It's very flattering," said Wingerter, who plays Judas in the show.

The ability to star in a huge musical — taking to the stage at TCU Place this weekend — while holding a day job is one of Wingerter's favourite parts of being a member of Fireside.

"We love that we can put this on in our own community, stay here and have our everyday jobs and still enjoy this," he said.

"We're living our dreams."

That sense of community is strong within the group as well, as Wingerter says most of his closest friends are part of the company. He met his wife through Fireside, while his co-star and close friend Sean Brandt met his fiancée there.

Trevor Wingerter, left, and Sean Brandt rehearse a scene from Jesus Christ Superstar, playing at TCU Place on May 23 and 24. SIMON HIATT

But will the bond between Brandt and Wingerter be tested as they go head to head in the lead roles of Jesus and Judas?

"It's a little different because Trev and I offstage are quite close, so it's fun to be hero and villain in this story," said Brandt, who takes on the role of Jesus.

"It's been interesting to experiment with that side of our relationship and see how we can bring that forth to the characters onstage."

While it's a bit of a switch for Wingerter to play the villain after taking on the role of Valjean, he says this production portrays Judas with more sympathy than you might expect.

"I am the villain, but I want to be the villain that everybody loves, right? You love to hate this guy, but we try to get you to feel sorry for him, for the decision that he had to make and the consequences he had to live with," Wingerter said.

Planning and rehearsals for the show have been underway since January. The lead time was necessary not only because the cast is full of people who have day jobs, but because of the scope of the production.

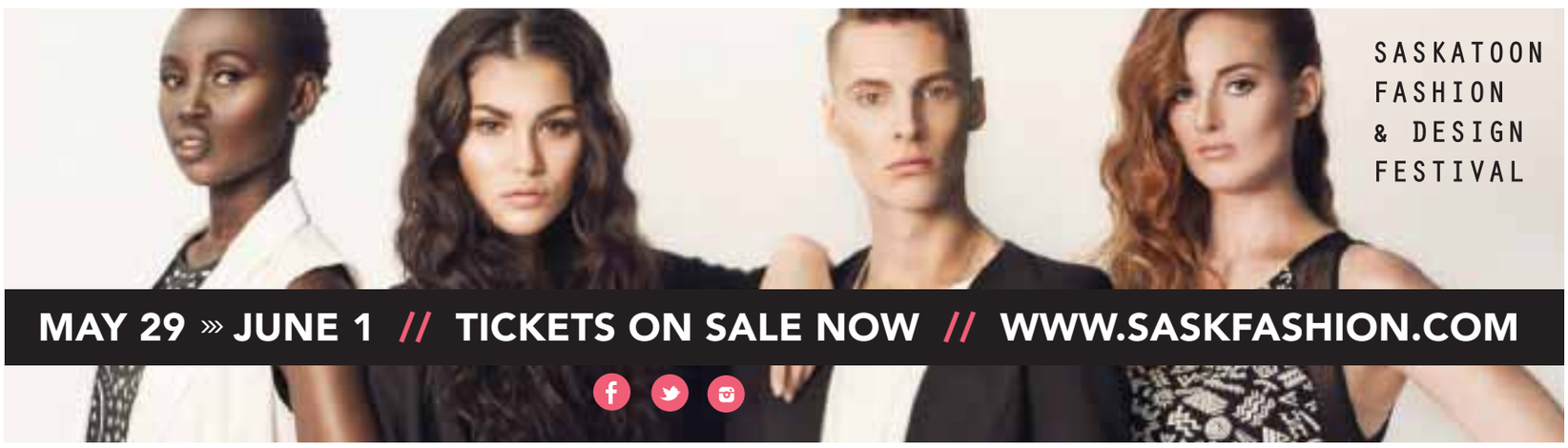
"We're about 80 singers strong and have the full orchestra as well, which is a nice touch that a lot of amateur productions don't get to have," Brandt said.

"There's no dead time. This show rocks the whole way through."

Did you know?

As is the case with the Fireside Singers production, Jesus Christ Superstar is usually staged with a large cast.

- Toronto-born electronic musician Peaches took a different approach, however, crafting a one-woman version of the show. She was initially refused permission to perform the musical by its copyright holders, but eventually received it and debuted her show to positive reviews in Berlin in 2010.



Jennifer Aniston

Jen wants to shed 10 pounds for her wedding

Not that anyone would say Jennifer Aniston is out of shape, but a rather catty source close to the former Friends star insists that Aniston is looking to shed an extra 10 pounds before tying the knot with fiancé Justin Theroux. "No way is Jen getting married at this weight. She'll lose another 10 pounds before she'll walk down the aisle," the source tells Radar Online. "Jen's besties, including Chelsea Handler and Courteney Cox, have been informed of Jen's weight loss plan and support it — which sounds terrible, but is absolutely how Jen operates among her peer group."

METRO DISH

OUR TAKE ON THE WORLD OF CELEBRITIES

The Word

Khloe and Kourtney want klown charged

MELINDA TAUB
Metro World News

Khloe and Kourtney Kardashian are pressing criminal charges against a Los Angeles man for criminal battery. Sounds serious, until you find out that what he battered them with was confetti.

The sisters were walking on Melrose in Los Angeles when local street performer Richie the Barber, who was riding his unicycle nearby, spotted them. The clown hurried over and showered them with confetti, according to TMZ.

The two sisters were not amused. They immediately filed a police report, which the police reportedly ignored as frivolous. However, Khloe and Kourtney followed up several days later, indicating that they planned to press charges.

Police then asked Richie the Barber if he intended to harm the women. He said no, according to TMZ: The confetti was meant to congratulate them on their success.

Let's hope Kim and Kanye don't have rice thrown at their wedding — Kim's sisters might have them arrested for attempted murder with a deadly weapon.

Lea Michele ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

Rachel and Mr. Schue?! Lea Michele admits to once dating Matthew Morrison

Lea Michele is changing her tune when it comes to her past with Glee co-star Matthew Morrison, but that's what happens when you have a book to sell. Back in 2010, stories cropped up about how the two had dated briefly before joining the hit musical series, but both vehemently denied them. "He's been a friend of mine from New York. People are going to make things up. I think it's just because we really are so close," she told Hollywood.com at the time. But now? In her new book, Brunette Ambition, Michele recounts, "When we shot the pilot, I met Cory Monteith, Kevin McHale, Amber Riley and Chris Colfer for the first time. I had worked on Broadway with Jenna Ushkowitz and Matthew Morrison before. Matt had been a friend of mine for years, and in fact we'd actually dated back in the day." Glad we got that cleared up.

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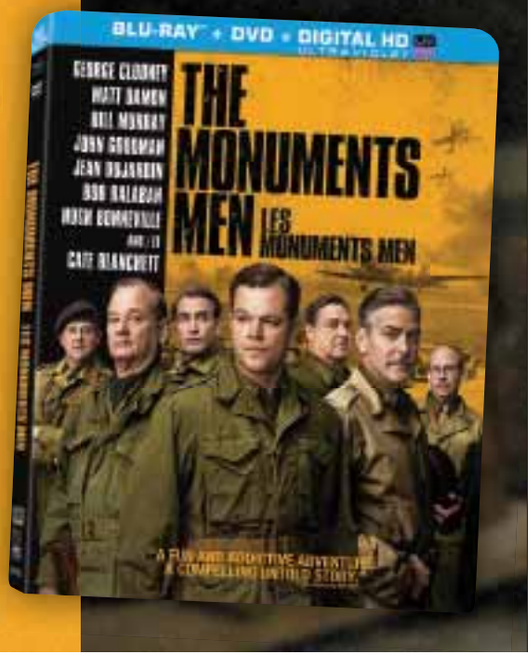
– Lou Lumenick, NY POST



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TODAY'S HOROSCOPE:

Neptune is suggesting that now may be the perfect time to get the Metro News App

Is the new Metro News App in your future? It should be – especially if you want access to the Metro News features you love, including horoscopes, local news, sports, entertainment and much more.

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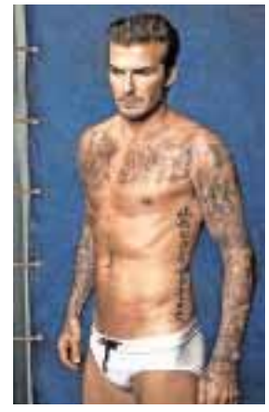
Want to drool over David a little more? Scan this photo with your Metro News app to see a photo montage of Beckham's previous H&M campaigns.

Beaching it like Beckham

Let's talk trunks. The ex-footballer takes a dip into swimwear in latest collaboration with H&M.

RICHARD PECKETT
Metro World News



If you only knew of David Beckham's existence through billboard posters, you'd swear that the man lives his life in tiny trunks. The 39-year-old's latest collaboration with Swedish retail chain H&M does little to dismiss that image. This time the tattooed body beautiful is launching, in his words, "a simple, old Bond movie-inspired" swimwear range of board shorts, trunks and swim shorts as part of David Beckham Bodywear for H&M. It's at a rooftop open-air swimming pool with gushing girls and water fountains that 'Goldenballs' reveals his designs that will hit stores globally today. Metro chats to Becks about stripping down, movie cameos and why tighty whities are his trunk of choice.

You've worn many different styles of swimwear over the years but which is your preferred cut?
I've kind of always gone for the tighter, smaller swimwear, personally. I'm sure there's gonna be a point where I'm not going to like it as much. But at the moment and from a very young age I've always gone for the tighter smaller white ones. One of my first actual holidays with Victoria — we'd only been together for about eight months — I remember wearing a tight Gucci pair, which was quite daring but I was obviously trying to get her attention. I wouldn't wear the smaller tighter ones walking down the beach with my kids. They'd be embarrassed.

Spice up your swim

"One of my first actual holidays with Victoria — we'd only been together for about eight months — I remember wearing a tight Gucci pair, which was quite daring but I was obviously trying to get her attention."
David Beckham on his swimwear choices

Speaking of embarrassment, how do your boys feel about you wearing such a revealing style? Have you achieved embarrassing dad status?
(Chortles) They do give me the embarrassing dad look when they walk past a billboard of myself. My mum does exactly the same. She will call up and say, "I've just walked past a huge billboard of you in your underwear." The boys are used to it now. The boys will kind of actually take selfies of themselves of me and my underwear.

You have to stay in great shape for these campaigns. Don't you ever want to just kick back with a beer?
Yeah, I do that anyway. I just have to make sure I work out in the morning after. To be honest, I actually don't really work out every single day. I always take the boys and Harper to school. Trying to find time to work out during the day is difficult.

For how many more years are you going to keep stripping down?
Not many more. I'm not trying to get away from that, but obviously I'm 39 years old now and I don't think people want to see me in my underwear beyond this age. I'm still comfortable doing it but there will be a point pretty soon that I'll hang my underwear up.

Once you've hung up your underwear, are you going to move into acting? Maybe a cameo in a Bond movie?
Umm, no. I never wanted to go into acting in any kind of way. I've dipped in and I've dipped out. I've enjoyed doing certain things and when I've done it, it's always been done pretty well. I've been working with great directors like Guy Ritchie. But acting has never been something that I've kind of wanted to go into. But you never know, you never know.

Canadian street style

Spotted in: Toronto

Name: Laura Jean Marie

Age: 28

Occupation: Collections consultant

What she's wearing:
JCrew coat, St.James T-shirt, a.p.c tote + Rag and Bone jeans

What she's wearing:
"Simple looks and clothes that I feel comfortable in."

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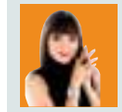

JEANNE SPACE
Jeanne Beker
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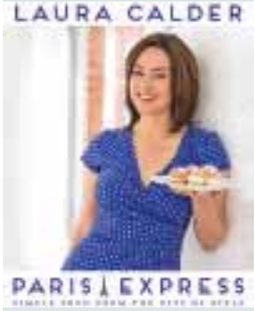
TWITTER ALLOWS ME TO BE ACCESSIBLE, INSTANTLY SPEAK MY MIND AND CONNECTS ME WITH ALL KINDS OF PEOPLE. WHETHER IT'S A FASHION QUESTION OR YOU JUST WANT TO COMMENT ON LIFE'S BIGGER PICTURE, I'D LOVE TO HEAR FROM YOU.

With the "Dream Crew" who operated the first @AirCanada #Dreamliner787 from Seattle to Toronto last Sunday.

Cookbook of the Week

Paris state of mind



Paris is known for its whimsical tourist attractions, romantic backdrops and, of course, its indulgent food.

In Paris Express: Simple Food from the City of Style, Laura Calder demystifies the idea that Parisian bites are technical and tedious. With photos of both dishes and city scenes as well as about 120 recipes, Calder helps readers to build their Parisian kitchen repertoire through helpful tips. Recipes include Veal Fricassée with Mushrooms, Seared Duck with Plum Compote, Red Onion Tart, Raspberry Clafoutis, and more. METRO

In Paris, saying 'oui' to tartare is a must

Steak Tartare. This bistro favourite is authentically Parisian

"Burgers are storming Paris at the moment — hélas! — and everyone eats them with a knife and fork," writes Laura Calder in her book Paris Express. "But steak tartare remains a bistro favourite, and I prefer it hands down, as long as it's a good one, which, quite frankly, is a rare find (no pun intended).

"To make your own, be sure to get the meat from a reputable butcher and let him know you'll be serving it raw. A bit of fresh horseradish grated over the final product is classic. The contrasting crunch of thin slices of lightly toasted olive-oil-rubbed baguette are de rigueur with this, unless you're going to play bistro yourself and serve it with crisp french fries."

Ingredients

- 8 oz (225 g) rib-eye steak
- 1/2 shallot, minced
- 2 anchovies, rinsed and chopped
- 1 raw egg yolk (or 1 tsp mayo)
- A handful of chopped fresh parsley
- 1 tbsp chopped cornichons
- 1 tsp chopped capers
- 2 tsp Dijon mustard
- 2 tsp Worcestershire sauce
- 2 tsp Cognac (optional)
- Few drops hot pepper sauce
- Salt and pepper
- A squeeze of lemon juice
- A handful of micro-greens, for garnish
- Olive oil

1. Make this dish just before serving.

2. If you haven't had the butcher mince the meat for you, put it in the freezer for about 30 minutes to make it easier to cut, then mince it very, very finely with a knife.

3. In a bowl, mix the shallot, anchovies, egg yolk, parsley, cornichons (gherkins), capers, mustard, Worcestershire sauce, Cognac (if using), and hot pepper sauce. Add meat and mix well. Season with salt, pepper, and lemon juice. Shape into 4 patties and arrange on plates.

4. For garnish, dress a handful of micro-greens very lightly with olive oil, lemon juice, and salt and pepper. Set a pinch on top of each tartare shape and serve. RECIPE FROM PARIS EXPRESS BY LAURA CALDER ©2014 (PUBLISHED BY HARPERCOLLINS PUBLISHERS LTD. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.)

This recipe serves four. PHOTOS ANCUȚA IORDĂCHESCU © 2014

You may not have grass on your front lawn yet, but there's no reason to do without that intense fresh scent and spring colour that we remember from days gone by. These grass-inspired items give you all the green without the need for a lawn mower

DESIGN CENTRE
Karl Lohnes
home@metronews.ca

Green, green grass of home

Evergreen turf

Create a lush, realistic lawn inside or out. With colours and texture to mimic real grass, UZ-ITE 100% olefin carpet is non-fade and can be hosed down to clean. $18/square yard, HomeDepot.ca

Tailor-blade tableware

A lush grass graphic to adorn your tabletop. Euro Ceramica's New Grass 16-piece collection is microwave and dishwasher safe. $90, BedBathAndBeyond.ca

Faux potted

A faux take on potted grasses. Lush everlasting grass in a ceramic planter brings a touch of spring to any room. $14, UrbanBarn.com

ALL PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED

Location is everything for Daxton

Silverspring area has balance of downtown view, grasslands

It's been called Saskatoon's best kept secret but it won't be a secret much longer.

With a beautiful skyline, rare green space and spacious living, North Ridge Development's Daxton project in Saskatoon's highly sought after Silverspring community is bucking the trend when it comes to condominiums, according to Daxton sales consultant David Leatherdale.

"This project is being built in the established neighbourhood of Silverspring with beautiful natural grasslands, wildlife views and a skyline of downtown," he says.

"But what is really gravitating homeowners to this condo project is the space. You actually have beautiful views and space between units and you won't be looking into your neighbours' windows for your view."

Leatherdale says the community is tucked away nicely and while it's been a secret up until this point, it won't be much longer.

"Besides the location and view, we offer carefree living in an established neighbourhood with heated underground parking and heated floors."

30-PLUS YEARS OF EXPERIENCE

North Ridge Development Corporation has been building quality homes as a go-to builder in Saskatchewan for more than 30 years. For more information about these developments or others by North Ridge, please visit northridge.sk.ca.

Townhouses are spacious and carefree

Relaxed and comfortable living is just a stone's throw away with North Ridge Development's Hawthorne townhouses in the stunning neighbourhood of Stonebridge.

While condo living is enjoyed by many, it might not be for everyone and that's why living in the spacious Hawthorne townhouses offers space and peace of mind, says sale consultant Daryl Renneberg.

"This is an opportunity for one of the last townhouse projects in Stonebridge where homeowners can get the space and privacy they crave while not having to worry about snow removal and yard work so they can spend more time enjoying their lives," he says. "Another big plus is that they are move-in ready with no extra costs once you move in. The appliances and landscaping are already included."

With two and three bedroom units ranging from 1,287-square-feet to 1,362-square-feet and one and two car garages, Hawthorne townhouses are located in Saskatoon's coveted East Side.

Hawthorne Place Town Homes are conveniently located close to numerous parks, walkways and also a few blocks from a proposed school location. The paths and nearby lakes are great motivation to get outside and stay active.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS

Kings put Blackhawks down

Carter hat-trick.
Kings come back from 2-1 deficit to thrash 'Hawks 6-2, tying series 1-1

Jeff Carter scored three of Los Angeles' six straight goals, and the Kings beat the Chicago Blackhawks 6-2 on Wednesday night to leave the Western Conference final tied at one game apiece.

Drew Doughty and Tyler Toffoli also scored in Los Angeles' five-goal third period as the Kings became the first visiting team to win in Chicago this post-season.

The Blackhawks won their first seven home playoff games this year, but the Kings skated right by Chicago after the defending Stanley Cup champions took a 2-0 lead in the second period.

Game 3 of the best-of-seven series is Saturday night in Los Angeles.

With star goalie Carey Price out injured, the Habs will go with Dustin Tokarski for Game 3. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Nick Leddy and Ben Smith scored for Chicago, which won 3-1 in Game 1 on Sunday. Corey Crawford made 25 saves.

The Blackhawks were in position for their fourth consecutive win before Doughty drove a slap shot by Crawford to tie it at 2 just 1:37 into the third. Carter then had another power-play score at 4:04 that gave Los Angeles the lead.

Once the Kings got going, they appeared to get almost anything they wanted against the sagging Blackhawks. Tanner Pearson set up goals by Toffoli at 8:59 and Carter at 14:44, and Carter added an empty-netter for his seventh of the playoffs.

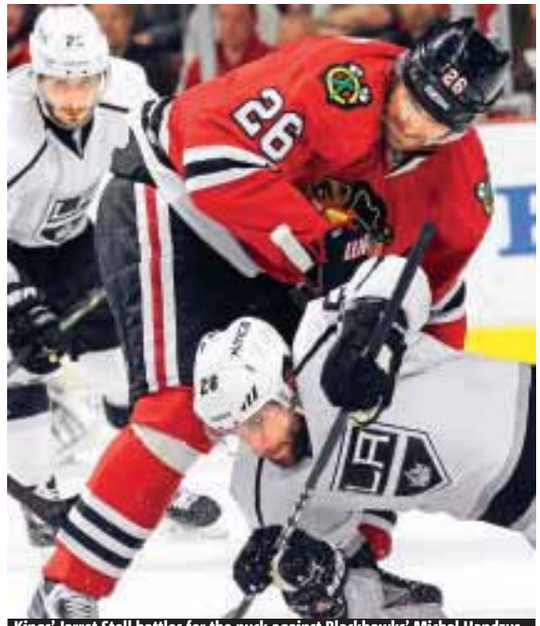
Carter also had an assist in his first career four-point playoff game.

It was his second playoff hat trick.

It was the most goals allowed by the Blackhawks in a playoff game since a 6-1 loss to Detroit on May 24, 2009.

Jonathan Quick made 23 saves for the Kings, including a big stop on Brent Seabrook with Chicago trying for a 3-0 lead in the second.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Kings' Jarret Stoll battles for the puck against Blackhawks' Michal Handzus
NAM Y. HUH/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

CFL

Labour talks break down after league rejects offer

In its first public statement on the current labour negotiations, the league announced it had rejected a proposal from the CFL Players' Association and unveiled details of the offer it made to players May 15.

No new talks are scheduled. The current agreement expires at on May 29 and training camps are scheduled to open June 1. The regular season is slated to kick off June 26.

At the root of the impasse is revenue sharing, with the players wanting it back in the new agreement after conceding it in the last deal, which was signed before the 2010 season. But commissioner Mark Cohon was emphatic that the league won't agree to revenue sharing.

"It might work for a league that has hundreds of millions of dollars in profit and billions of dollars in revenue to share," said Cohon. "With our league it doesn't work and that's why we've put together a proposal that's fair for the players.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

MLB

Jays sock Sox

Edwin Encarnacion had two homers for the second straight game, and the Toronto Blue Jays beat Boston 6-4 on Wednesday night to send the Red Sox to their sixth consecutive loss.

Encarnacion has seven homers in his last six games. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Edwin Encarnacion hits a second-inning home run on Wednesday in Boston. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Horoscopes

♈ Aries
March 21 - April 20
You will jump right in and get things done today. Your mind is working fast and your body isn't far behind it, so do what feels right and do it magnificently. You will surprise a few people by what you achieve.

♉ Taurus
April 21 - May 21
Your insight is such that others may wonder if you are psychic. Maybe you are, but there is nothing supernatural about your aims: you want to be a success and you want to be rich.

♊ Gemini
May 22 - June 21
There is no point making plans because whatever you decide is likely to be overtaken by other events. Just be ready to act when the opportunity arrives and don't be surprised if it's not what you were expecting.

♋ Cancer
June 22 - July 23
There are times when it is best to keep your feelings to yourself but this isn't one of them. You may surprise yourself with the intensity of your emotions over the next 24 hours. You've been keeping too much inside.

♌ Leo
July 24 - Aug. 23
Others will be happy to do what you ask of them today if they feel that you value their efforts. Say all the right things and you won't have to lift a finger!

♍ Virgo
Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
If you want to make an impression on people in positions of power, now is the time. The Sun in the career area of your chart urges you to do something that makes others sit up and take notice.

♎ Libra
Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
You will be inspired over the next few days. Every idea you have will be touched by genius. Remember though that ideas mean nothing unless you do something with them.

♏ Scorpio
Oct. 24 - Nov. 22
The planets warn you may fall prey to worries and anxieties that at most others times would not bother you. Keep telling yourself that each and every one of them is an illusion.

♐ Sagittarius
Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
You have been asking some searching questions of yourself and today you will discover that the answers you seek are not to be found in your career or in making more money.

♑ Capricorn
Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
Don't be afraid to break the rules. You may be a straight up person but sometimes even a Capricorn has to take a shortcut to get where they most want to be. So long as it does not hurt other people, it's not immoral.

♒ Aquarius
Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
You will be inspired over the next two or three days. The Sun in Gemini will encourage you to believe that all things are possible and that taking risks is not an option but a necessity.

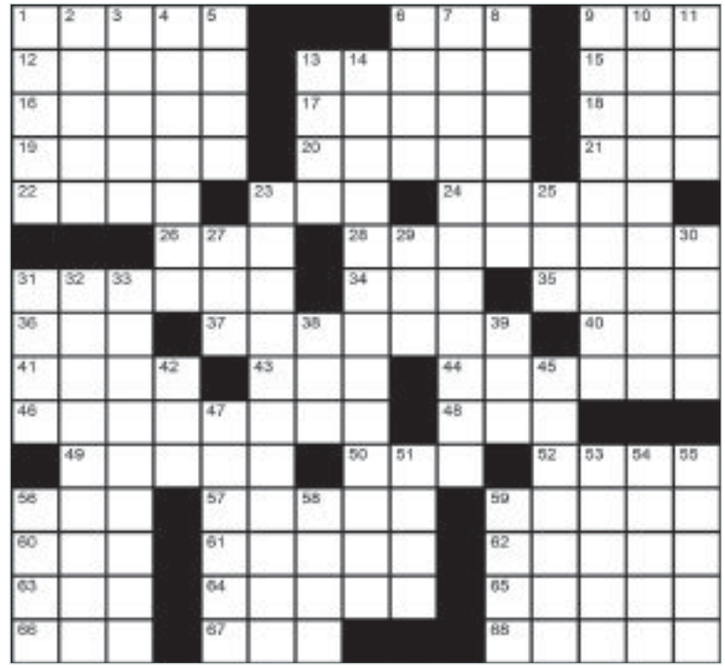
♓ Pisces
Feb. 20 - March 20
The solution to a problem that has been causing you sleepless nights will pop into your head today and you will kick yourself mentally for not having seen it sooner. Never mind, now you know what to do — so do it.

SALLY BROMPTON

Crossword: Canada Across and Down

See today's answers at metronews.ca/answers.

BY KELLY ANN BUCHANAN



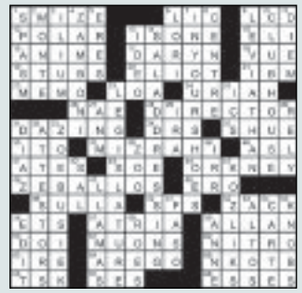
Across

1. April Wine's "Just Between You __ __"
6. Rocker Mr. Gallagher
10. Plug-less network connection
14. Repeat a TV show
15. Lodging of lore
16. Water wader
17. Canadian store for sewing supplies, etc.
19. Robert De __
20. Rihanna/Mikky Ekko song
21. Pencil gradings, commonly
22. Roof-accessing need
24. Flowery souvenir
25. Pants holder-upper
26. Anne Shirley's beloved: 2 wds.
32. Ovid's love poetry collection
33. Concernings, curtly
34. Cheerios stuff, __ fibre
36. Phoney
37. Curtain call maneuver
38. By land __ __
40. Mr. Cage, to pals
41. Trend
42. Avow
43. Canadian Cocktails: Bloody Caesar glass feature: 3 wds.
46. Some streets, shortly
47. __-Medonte (Ontario township)
48. Cooking cover: 2 wds.
51. Brazil: __ Paulo
52. Network VIP
56. Matinee __
57. ISBN = International Standard __ __
60. Place
61. BMW rival
62. Chimney plume
63. Soon, to Shakespeare
64. Gramp's wife
65. Group of six

Down

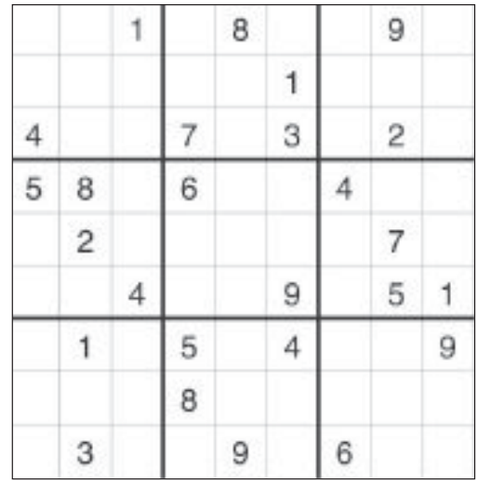
1. Canine communications!
2. Orderly
3. __ _ bit on, as ointment
4. Muddy
5. Q. "What show did George Clooney star on?" A. "'_ _', _ believe."
6. Juno-winning Reggae artist, Elaine __'__ Shepherd
7. "__ __ little time..." (The fastest way)
8. Beach Boys' "Barbara __"
9. Strung-together musical blends
10. Southeastern Saskatchewan village
11. In the same place, Latin-style [abbr.]
12. Campsite warmth-giver
13. "I'm not sure if it __ __ not."
18. Sonny Bono's duets partner, and namesakes
23. Music: __-Rock
24. Some jeans
25. What the wind did
26. Chatter
27. Bruce Springsteen's "__ __ Fire"
28. Someone smart's specialty
29. Canadian music manager for acts including Bryan Adams and Anne Murray: 2 wds.
30. "Canadian Girls" by Dean __
31. Reliever
35. Ms. Hatcher
37. Drinking spots
38. Nobel Peace Prize city
39. PIN-inputing spot
41. Horse's food-holding thingy
42. Mr. Carter, singer Nick's brother
44. Caesar's 56
45. Absorb all: 2 wds.
48. Tilting Tower
49. Aesir ruler
50. Oz dog
51. Fizzy drink
52. Famous model
53. Gaming console
54. "__! _ spider!"
55. On-the-streets believability, for short
58. "Days of __ Lives"
59. Show-to-seats, shortly

Yesterday's Crossword



Sudoku

How to play
Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved.



Yesterday's Sudoku

8	7	6	4	5	3	2	1	9
4	5	9	1	2	7	6	3	8
3	2	1	8	6	9	5	7	4
2	4	3	7	8	1	9	6	5
9	8	5	2	3	6	7	4	1
6	1	7	5	9	4	3	8	2
5	3	8	6	4	2	1	9	7
1	9	4	3	7	5	8	2	6
7	6	2	9	1	8	4	5	3

Today
28°/14°
Variable
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TWN incorporates MSC data

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